

## **Historic, archived document**

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SOUTH DAKOTA  
June 12, 1944

Food preservation.- High light of extension activity for war food program during May was preservation clinic, conducted by nutrition specialist from Iowa, for 16 emergency war food and new home agents. Following week, institute was held for this group and other home demonstration agents. Others interested in wartime food problems were also invited. Institute included spoilage clinic, information about danger from use of canning compounds and poison sprays, nutrition, and variety in use of preserved foods. Background information on use of pressure cookers, driers, sealers, jars, gardening and storage helps, was also presented and discussed.

Most interesting session was spoilage clinic. Cultures of bacteria from spoiled canned goods, collected in different parts of State, were analyzed by bacteriologist at State college. Those attending saw slides of organisms present and effects of inoculations of bacteria on guinea pigs.

Home demonstration agents were urged to use as many means and agencies as possible to promote food-preservation work. These include contacts with freezer-locker plants and grocery stores to check on supplies. They were also urged to encourage exhibits and solicit cooperation of larger stores in establishing information centers on equipment. Club visits and open meetings will be used to promote production and preservation.

Home management and house furnishings.- Training school on streamlining housekeeping was given by home-management specialist for home agents and emergency war food agents attending food-preservation clinic. Demonstration was centered on principles of time and motion that apply to homemaking skills and practices. Laboratory method was used, and group participated in time- and motion-saving practices. Methods to use in improving homemaking jobs were shown in demonstration on simplifying coffee-making.

Making furniture more durable and attractive to last through war has been featured in demonstrations, clinics, and exhibits on slip covers. This was follow-up of furniture schools held during March in seven counties.

Sheep-shearing schools.- Livestock specialist conducted 8 sheep-shearing schools, which aroused much interest. Schools were attended by 79 persons, who sheared 411 sheep. Training received by those attending will be helpful during shearing season in relieving labor shortage.

Agronomy.- Extension agronomist and county agents aided farmers by distribution of circulars and news releases on "Farming Around a Cold, Wet Spring" and "Crops for Summer Seeding." With wise choice of alternative crops to fit unusual wet season, South Dakota may come through with greater total production than under ordinary, drier conditions. Prospect for hay and pasture crops is excellent. To great extent, by use of extra early crops, sorghums, moisture conservation, and grasshopper control, we can also "farm around" a hot, dry July.

Poultry.- News stories were issued and several meetings held to clarify program of War Food Administration in connection with egg surplus. Many farmers apparently have misunderstood plan for guaranteed support price.

Forestry.- In each of 11 counties 2 days were devoted to tree-planting demonstrations. Yard improvement and windbreaks were planned during visits to 20 farm homes. Inspection of 11 tree-planting projects revealed damage by mice and rabbits in several counties. Poisoning campaign was organized to protect trees. Pine and cedar showed good survival and growth without care or cultivation.

